

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Workforce Investment Board

Executive Director's Report October 27, 2009

An AGIA Steering Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, August 19th to review the implementation schedule and action to date for the four strategies contained in the AGIA Training Strategic Plan. Jeff Selvey and Helen Mehrkens gave an update on the status of implementation for Strategy 2, and portions of Strategy 4 related to Career and Technical Education. Gerry Andrews and Mike Shiffer gave an update on the implementation for Strategy 3 for registered apprenticeship. Several Department of Labor staff contributed to the update on implementation for Strategy 4. Guy Bell provided an update on the FY 10 budget for workforce development. The next AGIA Steering Committee is scheduled for late October or early November in Fairbanks.

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Employment Training Administration solicited grant applications for the healthcare sector under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). A grant application was prepared and submitted by an industry consortia that currently includes Providence Hospital, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, the University of Alaska, Anchorage School District, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, U.S. Office of Apprenticeship, Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association, Denali Commission, AWIB, and other agencies. A healthcare workforce development plan is being developed by this industry consortia and a draft of the plan is expected to be presented to the AWIB at the October meeting in Fairbanks.

The USDOL, Employment Training Administration solicited grant applications from State Workforce Investment Boards for State Energy Sector Partnership and Training Grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). A grant application for training related to renewable energy and energy efficiency occupations and the formation of a State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) was submitted. The USDOL intends to fund grants from \$2 to \$6 million. As this is a USDOL solicitation, staff from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board was the lead in organizing and preparing the application.

Alaska's Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Annual Performance Report for PY 2008 was due to the USDOL ETA by October 1, 2009. The WIA Annual Report includes Workforce Investment Act Title 1-B adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs as well as Trade Adjustment Assistance, Wagner-Peyser, and Veterans Services programs. The draft annual report was forwarded to the Assessment and Evaluation Committee for review and then on to the Executive Committee for review and submittal through the Commissioner's Office to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Jeff Selvey continues to work with all stakeholders on the implementation of AGIA's Strategy 2, and portions of Strategy 4 related to Career and Technical Education. Jeff and staff hosted a Regional Training Center (RTC) conference on September 17 and 18, 2009. There were 21 participants. Jeff is working with the RTC's in assisting the RTC's implement career pathways, expanding programs, and meeting industry standards. Guy Bell, Assistant to the Commissioner, Corine Geldhof, Director of Business Partnerships, and Mike Shiffer, Assistant Director of Business Partnerships, presented budget and grant information to the RTC's.

Committees

➤ The committee reports for activity from the May board meeting to date are included in the board binder. This is in addition to the updates from the committee chairs at this meeting.